

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A single-use personal locator beacon including:

an outer case open at one end and an inner case having a major portion removably received within the outer case leaving a minor portion extending outside the outer case;

a wireless transmitter and a power supply within the inner case; and

a one-way switch for automatically connecting the power supply to the wireless transmitter to thereby activate the wireless transmitter to transmit a signal when the major portion of the inner case is removed from the outer case, wherein the switch is not operable to disconnect the power supply from the wireless transmitter after the major portion of the inner case has been removed from the outer case whereby the beacon is a single-use beacon.

2. (Currently Amended) A single-use personal locator beacon according to claim 1, wherein the one-way switch is ~~not operable to disconnect the power supply from the wireless transmitter after the major portion of the inner case has been removed from the outer case whereby the beacon is a single-use beacon~~ a sliding switch slidably mounted within the inner case in an open position when the major portion of the inner case is disposed within the inner case, the sliding switch engaging one end of an activation pin slidably mounted in the inner case and the other end of the activation pin projecting exteriorly of the inner case in a gap provided between facing surfaces of the major portion of the inner case and the outer case, wherein the projecting end of the activation pin is depressed into the inner case by a ramp on an inner surface of the outer case during removal of the major portion of the inner case from the outer case so that the activation pin moves the sliding switch to a closed position whereby the wireless transmitter is activated.

3. (Currently Amended) A single-use personal locator beacon according to claim 1 or 2, wherein ~~the switch is a sliding switch slidably mounted within the inner case in an open position when the major portion of the inner case is disposed within the inner case, the~~

~~sliding switch engaging one end of an activation pin slidably mounted in the inner case and the other end of the activation pin projecting exteriorly of the inner case in a gap provided between facing surfaces of the major portion of the inner case and the outer case, wherein the projecting end of the activation pin is depressed into the inner case by a ramp on an inner surface of the outer case during removal of the major portion of the inner case from the outer case so that the activation pin moves the sliding switch to a closed position whereby the wireless transmitter is activated~~ sliding switch freely engages with and releases from the activation pin so that the sliding switch cannot be returned to the open position by withdrawing the activation pin from the inner case.

4. (Currently Amended) A single-use personal locator beacon according to claim 3, ~~wherein the sliding switch freely engages with and releases from the activation pin so that the sliding switch cannot be returned to the open position by withdrawing the activation pin from the inner case~~ the inner case and the outer case are releasably locked together via a locking pin when the major portion of the inner case is disposed within the outer case, the locking pin extending through a hole formed in the closed end of the outer case, one end of the locking pin releasably locking the inner case and the outer case together and the other end of the locking pin being provided with a pull ring disposed exteriorly of the outer case, wherein pulling the pull ring away from the closed end of the outer case unlocks the inner case from the outer case so that the major portion of the inner case can be removed from the outer case whereby the wireless transmitter is activated.

5. (Currently Amended) A single-use personal locator beacon according to ~~any preceding claim~~ claim 4, ~~wherein the inner case and outer case are releasably locked together via a locking pin when the major portion of the inner case is disposed within the outer case, the locking pin extending through a hole formed in the closed end of the outer case, one end of the locking pin releasably locking the inner case and outer case together and the other end of the locking pin being provided with a pull ring disposed exteriorly of the outer case, wherein the pulling the pull ring away from the closed end of the outer case unlocks the inner case from the outer case so that the major portion of the inner case can be removed from the outer case whereby the wireless transmitter is activated~~

.in use, the personal locator beacon is attached to a user via the pull ring such that the radio transmitter can be activated by the user pulling the minor portion of the inner case with one hand away from the attached pull ring.

6. (Currently Amended) A single-use personal locator beacon according to claim 5, ~~wherein, in use, the personal locator beacon is attached to a user via the pull ring such that the radio transmitter can be activated by the user pulling the minor portion of the inner case with one hand away from the attached pull ring~~ further including an antenna operatively connected to the wireless transmitter.

7. (Currently Amended) A single-use personal locator beacon according to ~~any preceding claim~~ claim 6, ~~further including an antenna operatively connected to the wireless transmitter wherein the antenna is an external whip antenna on the major portion of the inner case that is biased compressed when the major portion of the inner case is disposed within the outer case such that the antenna automatically springs to deploy when the major portion of the inner case is removed from the outer case.~~

8.(Currently Amended) A single-use personal locator beacon according to claim 7, ~~wherein the antenna is an external whip antenna on the major portion of the inner case that is biased compressed when the major portion of the inner case is disposed within the outer case such that the antenna automatically springs to deploy when the major portion of the inner case is removed from the outer case~~ inner case is adapted to float with a lower portion below a waterline when the beacon is deployed on water, and wherein on deployment the antenna springs upwardly away from the lower portion of the inner case to a generally upright extended position above the waterline.

9. (Currently Amended) A single-use personal locator beacon according to claim 8, ~~wherein the inner case is adapted to float with a lower portion below a waterline when the beacon is deployed on water, and wherein on deployment the antenna springs upwardly away from the lower portion of the inner case to a generally upright extended position above the waterline~~ further including a microprocessor and an associated memory for selectively

controlling the wireless transmitter.

10. (Currently Amended) A single-use personal locator beacon according to ~~any preceding claim~~ claim 9, further including a microprocessor and an associated memory for selectively controlling the wireless transmitter wherein the memory is programmable to store a selected signal for transmission by the wireless transmitter.

11. (Currently Amended) A single-use personal locator beacon according to claim 10, wherein the ~~memory is programmable to store a selected signal for transmission by the wireless transmitter~~ signal transmitted by the wireless transmitter is a voice message.

12. (Currently Amended) A single-use personal locator beacon according to ~~any preceding claim~~ claim 10, wherein the ~~signal transmitted by the wireless transmitter is a voice message~~ further including a GPS receiver for receiving GPS location data, and wherein the signal transmitted by the wireless transmitter includes GPS location data.

13. (Currently Amended) A single-use personal locator beacon according to ~~any preceding claim~~ claim 10, further including a GPS receiver for receiving GPS location data, and wherein the ~~signal transmitted by the wireless transmitter includes GPS location data~~ wherein the beacon is portable and has a volume of less than around 150 cm³ when the major portion of the inner case is disposed within the outer case.

14. (Currently Amended) A single-use personal locator beacon according to ~~any preceding claims~~ claim 13, wherein the ~~beacon is portable and has a volume of less than around 150 cm³ when the major portion of the inner case is disposed within the outer case~~ has a volume of around 75 cm³ when the major portion of the inner case is disposed within the outer case.

15. (Currently Amended) A single-use personal locator beacon according to claim 14, wherein the ~~beacon has a volume of around 75 cm³ when the major portion of the inner case is disposed within the outer case~~ further including a speaker or an audible alarm

transducer.

16. (Currently Amended) A single-use personal locator beacon according to ~~any preceding claim~~ claim 15, further including a ~~speaker or an audible alarm transducer~~ a display panel for displaying information associated with the beacon.

17. (Currently Amended) A single-use personal locator beacon according to ~~any preceding claim~~ claim 15, further including a ~~displaying information associated with the beacon~~ thread interconnecting the inner case and the outer case when the major portion of the inner case is removed from the outer case, wherein the thread is frangible and/or reflective.

18. (Currently Amended) A single-use personal beacon according to ~~any preceding claim~~ claim 15, ~~further including a thread interconnecting the inner case and the outer case when the major portion of the inner case is removed from the outer case, wherein the thread is frangible and/or reflective~~ wherein the beacon is adapted to float.

19. (Currently Amended) A single-use personal locator beacon according to ~~any preceding claim~~ claim 15, wherein the ~~beacon is adapted to float~~ the wireless transmitter is a radio transmitter and the signal transmitted by the wireless transmitter is a radio signal.

20. (Currently Amended) A single-use personal locator beacon according to ~~any preceding claim~~ claim 19, wherein the ~~wireless transmitter is a radio transmitter and the signal transmitted by the wireless transmitter is a radio signal~~ radio transmitter is a UHF radio transmitter and the radio signal is a UHF radio signal.

21. (Currently Amended) A single-use personal locator beacon according to ~~claim 20~~ 19, ~~wherein the radio transmitter is a UHF radio transmitter and the radio signal is a UHF radio signal~~ further including a radio receiver.

22 - 23. (Cancel)